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BOOK REVIEWS

John Archibald Campbell, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, 1853-1861. By Henry G. Conner, LL.D., Judge of the United States Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1920. Pp. viii, 310).

This volume in portraying the life of John Archibald Campbell thereby gives a valuable insight into much of the nation's history, legal and political, for the subject was a prominent figure in the country's affairs for almost half a century. A native of Georgia, and a graduate of the State University, he early began the practice of law and soon thereafter entered into politics in Alabama. In 1853 he was appointed to the United States Supreme Court, where he remained until the outbreak of the Civil War convinced him that he could be of no further use in that body. He was the intermediary between the Southern Commissioners and Secretary Seward, concerning the relief of Fort Sumter; and later when it became evident that the South could not win the war, he stood out again as a strong force for peace and an understanding between the sections. In fulfilling this role he was present at the Hampton Roads Conference, and after the fall of Richmond he had conversations with Lincoln concerning the means of procedure in reconstructing the South. Although a believer in the right of secession, he had argued that the causes were not sufficient in 1860 and 1861—that the election of Lincoln was not sufficient provocation to break up the Union. After being imprisoned in Fort Pulaski for a few months, at the end of the war, he went to New Orleans where he entered into the practice of law. He died in Baltimore in 1889.

While this volume is concerned much with legal matters, such as court decisions and arguments of counsel, it has a far wider interest than merely to the legal profession; and

although sixty-two court decisions are discussed or mentioned, it carries forward with few jars the interest on broad principles. Judge Campbell participated in some of the most important decisions of the times—especially those relating to slavery are of note, such as the Dred Scott case, the Wisconsin Supreme Court nullification procedure, and Kentucky vs. Denison. In the Circuit Courts of the Southern Circuit, over which he presided, he had occasion to deal with the filibustering expeditions, involving neutrality laws, and slave trade cases.

Judge Campbell's hostility to monopolies, and his state right sentiments are brought out in numerous cases, which he argued or decided. His opposition to the extension of the Federal Courts' maritime jurisdiction was actuated by this latter feeling. However, in the Slaughter-House case, which he argued in 1872 before the United States Supreme Court, he did not let his state rights sentiments (undoubtedly greatly modified by the war), prevent him from taking the side against Louisiana, aided as he was by the feeling against monopolies, municipal or otherwise.

This volume gives interesting information on the South's Commissioners to Washington, quoting Campbell's *Facts of History* on the negotiations. It also lets Campbell speak for himself through his memoranda, on his conversations with Lincoln at the end of the war; but it fails to quote his memoirs on the Hampton Roads Conference.

In the preparation of the book, many of Campbell's letters and papers were used with also much secondary material, to which, however, the footnotes inadequately refer, and for which no bibliography is attached. There are some slips in quotations and a few typographical errors (e. g., p. 171). There is an index. On the whole this is a valuable work well done.

E. M. C.

Negro Folk Rhymes, Wise and Otherwise, with a Study.
By Thomas W. Talley (New York: The Macmillan Company.
1922. Pp. xii, 347. \$2.25.)

This collection of Negro folk rhymes not only expresses